

Message Text

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO LAGOS FROM ACCRA JUL 11

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QUOTE

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LAGOS FOR AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, GH

SUBJ: GHANA'S WHEAT IMPORT STATISTICS

REF: STATE 122804, STATE 128067

1. ANALYSIS INDICATED GHANA'S OFFICIAL IMPORT STATISTICS

COMPLETEY INACCURATE CONCERNING TOTAL WHEAT IMPORTS AND SINCE

DO NOT DIFFERENTIATE CONCESSIONAL AND COMMERCIAL

PROCUREMENT ARE

UNSUITABLE STR DEVELOPING INFORMATION REQUESTED REFTEL.

2. DISCUSSIONS WITH IMPORTERS AND CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION

OFFICIALS AND REVIEW OF COMPLIANCE REPORTS WHICH ARE ACCURATE

ENABLE US PRESENT FOLLOWING TABLE FY 69 THRU FY 73.

3. GHANA WHEAT/FLOUR COMMERCIAL IMPORTS (METRIC TONS)

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FLOUR AS WHEAT		TOTAL WHEAT PLUS	
FY	WHEAT FLOUR EQUIVALENT (X 1.37)	FLOUR EQUIVALENT	
69 CANADA	26,956	11,753	16,102
U.S. -	1,842	2,523	
OTHER -	2,040	2,795	
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	26,956	15,635	21,420
			48,376
70 CANADA	37,462	2,946	4,036
U.S. -	302	419	
OTHER -	1,227	1,681	
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	37,462	4,475	6,136
			43,598
71 CANADA	5,000	9,122	71497
U.S. -	365	500	
OTHER -	2,501	3,426	
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	5,000	11,988	16,423
			21,423
72 CANADA	26,771	24	33
U.S. -	71	97	
OTHER -	710	973	
	-----	-----	
	26,771	805	1,103
			27,874
73 CANADA	4,770	-	-
U.S.	62,501	75	103
OTHER -	301	412	
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	67,271	376	515
			67,786

4. 376 TONS FLOUR FY 73 IS FIRST QUARTER ONLY; WHEAT IS FOR ENTIRE YEAR. FROM ABOVE CLEAR THAT FLOUR NO LONGER OF ANY TRADE SIGNIFICANCE AND PATTERNS OF COMMERCIAL WHEAT TRADE UNDERGOING DRASTIC REALIGNMENT. IN FY 73 ONLY 12,700 MT PL 480 WHEAT IMPORTED, RESIDUAL OF LAST AGREEMENT NOW COMPLETED. AS ANNUAL TOTAL GHANA WHEAT REQUIREMENTS APPROXIMATELY 135,000 TONS AND AS CANADA PLANS GRANT APPROXIMATELY 47,000 TONS, APPEARS POTENTIAL MARKET FOR COMMERCIAL SALES APPROACHING 90,000 TONS. COMMERCIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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IMPORT PATTERNS OF LAST FEW YEARS OF LITTLE HELP IN PREDICTING BREAKDOWN OF SOURCES OF PURCHASES BUT U.S. AND CANADA LIKELY SHARE MARKET IN PROPORTIONS RELATED RELATIVE PRICE AND AVAILABILITY INCLUDING SEASON CLOSING ST. LAWRENCE AS IT AFFECTS ACCESSIBILITY CANDADIAN SOURCE.

5. AN IMPORTER WHO PURCHASED 40,500 MT OF GHANA COMMERCIAL IMPORTS IN FY 73 FROM U.S. HAS IMPORT LICENSE FOR \$8.7 MILLION

WHEAT FOR DELIVERY HERE EARLY NOVEMBER FOR WHICH HE INDICATES WILL SEEK PURCHASE IN U.S. ASSUME THIS MERELY REFLECTS PRUDENT ACTION GOG LICENSING AUTHORITIES PROVIDE FOR NEEDED IMPORTS ON ASSUMPTION PL 480 MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE MEET ANY PART WHEAT NEEDS PENDING EXPECTED NEW 1974 CANADIAN GRANT.

6. GHANA HAS HAD GREAT PROBLEMS IN PAST MEETING UMR OF 43,000 TONS; DID SO IN FY 73 AT CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE TO AVAILABILITY FOREIGN EXCHANGE FOR OTHER URGENT NEEDS. WITH EXPECTED SETTLEMENT OTHER RELATED ISSUE AND PROBLEMS POSSIBILITY MAY OPEN FOR NEW PL 480. AS CONTRIBUTION TO MEETING DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS SUGGEST CONSULT WITH CANADIANS RE WILLINGNESS REDUCE UMR TO 30-35,000 TONS.

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